

Vermont Country Store
(Near the town common)
Weston,
Windsor County,
Vermont

HABS No. VT-47

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

VERMONT COUNTRY STORE

Location: Near the town common, Weston, Windsor County, Vermont.

Present Owner: Vrest Orton.

Present Occupant: The Vermont Country Store.

Present Use: As a store.

Brief Statement of Significance: This building is a typical early country store still serving its original function, but filled with more merchandise than it would have originally had and now a popular tourist attraction.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Original and subsequent owners: Vrest Orton, present owner, does not know name of original owner. His father revived it as a country store.
2. Date of Erection: 1828.
3. Notes on alterations, additions, and present use: Interior now filled with much more merchandise than an old country store ever had. Was originally one room deep with store room at front running entire width of the structure. Has addition at rear. Nation wide mail-order business conducted in rear. So much business that the Weston Post Office has raised from fourth to second class rating.

B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure: Reputed to be the original "revived country store".

C. Important old views: Historical Society has collection of old photos.

D. Sources of information: Interview with the owner.

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- E. Likely sources not yet investigated: Local Historical Society.

Prepared by Dr. Frank J. Roos, Jr.,
University of Illinois, for National
Park Service, 143 South Third Street,
Philadelphia 6, Pa. - August 1959.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural Character: Regionally typical frame, two story country store of 1828.
2. Condition of fabric: Good.

B. Technical Description of Exterior

1. Overall dimensions: Two and one-half stories.
2. Foundations: Stone.
3. Wall construction: Timber frame, pegged and mortised beams, clapboards.
4. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: Central door, first and second floor porches in two story portico with gable over, with two windows.
 - b. Windows and shutters: New windows on first floor flanking central door. Second floor and gable windows 12/12 double hung, not original. Simple board frames.
5. Roof:
 - a. Shape - covering: Gable roof, gable facing street. Asbestos shingle, was slate, before that, shingle.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: Cyma-recta and fillet, returning at gable.

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6. Chimneys: One chimney.

C. Technical Description of Interior

1. Floor Plan: Large open store room, first floor, width of structure.
2. Stairways: Outside stairway on porch, to second floor. Originally had inside stairs.
3. Floor: Pine - random width.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Open beams. Did have plaster.
5. Doorways and doors: Simple board frames.
6. Trim: Mixed, due to store function.
7. Hardware: Not original.
8. Lighting: Electric.
9. Heating: Box stove originally, replaced by pot-belly stove. Now central heating.

D. Site

1. Orientation and General Setting: Close to road, facing west.

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